



**Bridgeway**  
Freedom Through Recovery

January 31, 2023

To: House Committee on Gambling Regulation

From: Tim Murphy  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bridgeway Recovery Services  
250 Church Street  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Chair Lively and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the invitation to speak with you today. I am the CEO of Bridgeway Recovery Services which provides mental health treatment for individuals struggling with problem gambling behaviors. We provide both outpatient services and residential services to any Oregonian that needs our level of support.

You will hear glowing reports from the Oregon State Lottery of all the investments that the Lottery is making; they are impressive but what is the cost of these investments?

We see from our part of the gambling business thousands of broken lives struggling with the results of their addiction to gambling. We see in addition to the behavioral problems associated with an out-of-control addiction significant health related illnesses associated with Problem Gambling. Primary health care issues such as Hypertension, Anxiety, Depression and Suicidal Ideation.

In Oregon we have State Sponsored Gambling ...a behavior that damages our fellow Oregonians. We have seen Oregon State Lottery services vastly expand over the years, from scratch off tickets and national lotteries to electronic machines and sports betting. You cannot go to a grocery store or mini-mart without seeing gambling products offered for sale...most restaurants and bars offer gambling machines.

The advertising of these products is constant and in every available medium.

I ask you to take a look at the advertising budget for the Oregon State Lottery. If we can't stop the games, can we at least stop the advertising? The State does not sponsor liquor consumption, nor does it sponsor tobacco use so why does it sponsor advertisements that promote gambling and hurt our fellow citizens?

Thank you for listening.

#### Board of Directors

James "Doc" Campbell

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Restoring Lives  
by Taking Control  
of Addiction